TOMB OF DRACULA

MARVEL COMICS GROUP™

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30¢ CC | 48 SEPT 02143

COMICDOM'S NUMBER 1 FEAR MAGAZINE

THE TOMB OF DRACULA

LORD OF VAMPIRES!

BLADE and HANNIBAL KING AGAINST THE MINIONS OF HELL!

TRILOGY OF FEAR!

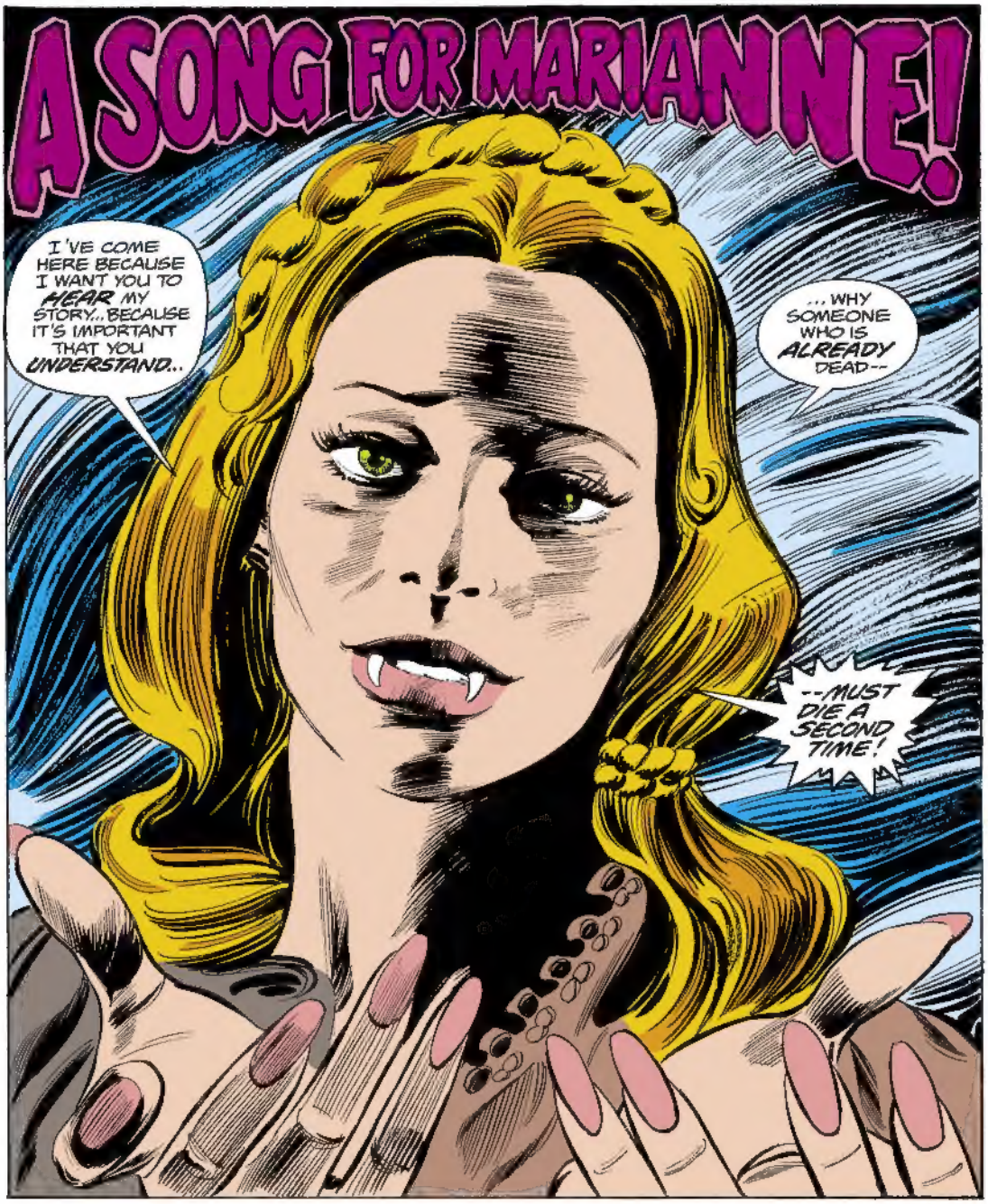
THREE TALES GUARANTEED TO SEND SHIVERS UP YOUR SPINE!

Five hundred years ago he was killed...but he *did not die.* Today, *Quincy Harker, Frank Drake, Rachel Van Helsing,* and *Blade,* the Vampire Slayer—stalk him...as this unliving Lord of Vampires spreads his reign of terror across a twentieth century world.

Stan Lee PRESENTS: TOMB OF DRACULA™

MARV WOLFMAN WRITER/EDITOR / GENE COLAN • TOM PALMER ARTISTS / JOHN COSTANZA, letterer MICHELE WOLFMAN, colorist

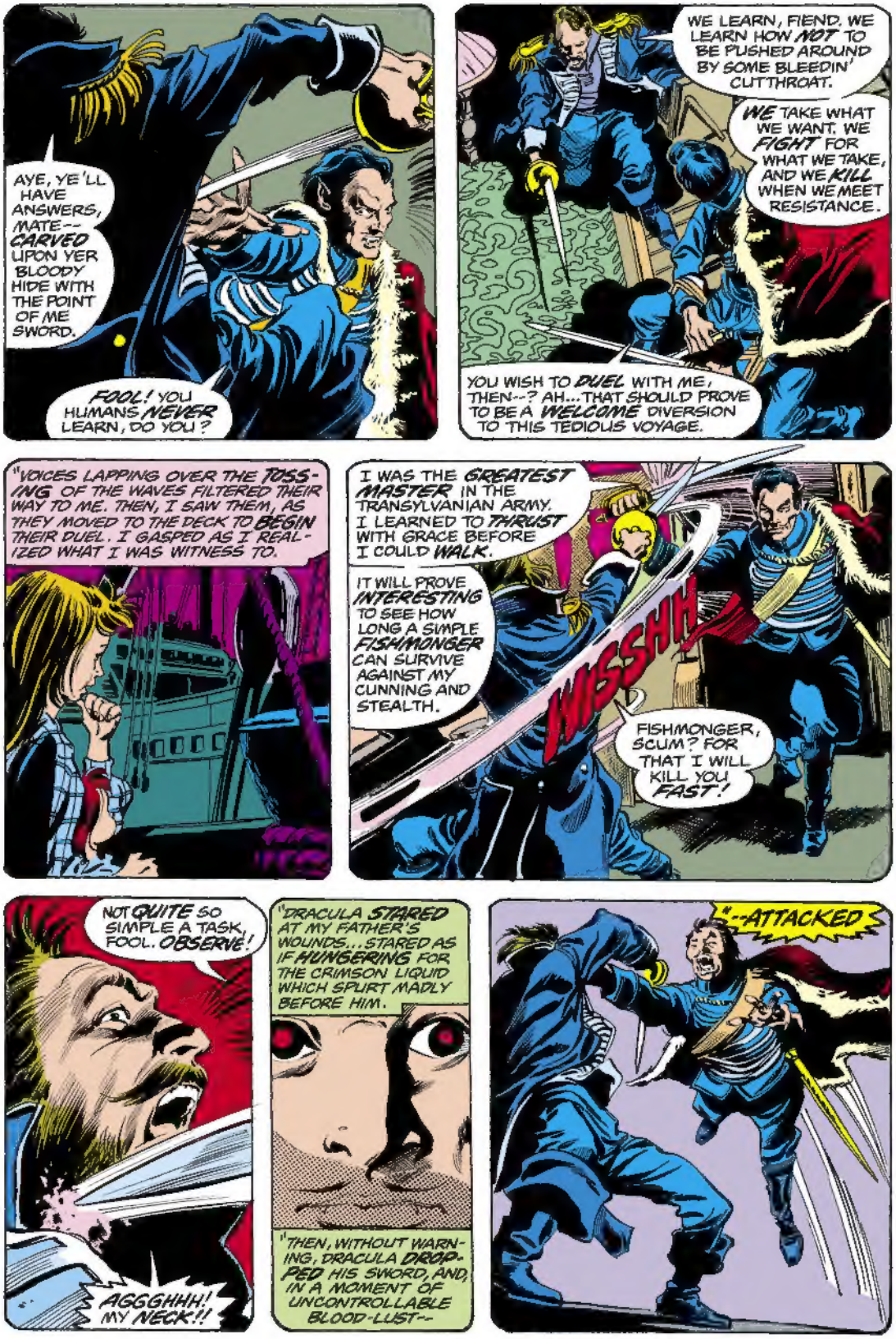
A SONG FOR MARIANNE!

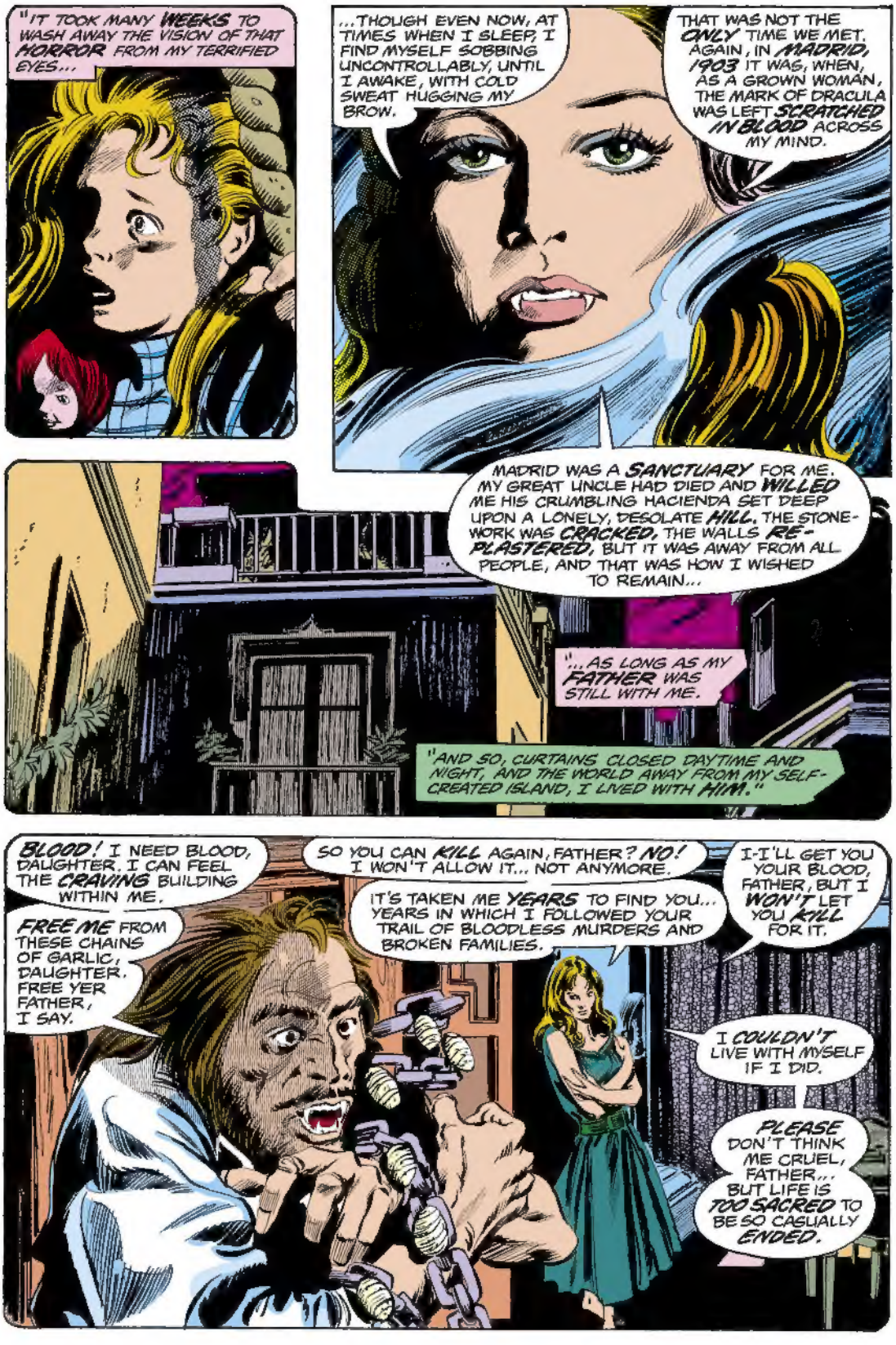

I'VE COME HERE BECAUSE I WANT YOU TO HEAR MY STORY... BECAUSE IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOU UNDERSTAND...
...WHY SOMEONE WHO IS ALREADY DEAD--
--MUST DIE A SECOND TIME!

YES, I WANT TO DIE AGAIN... AND THIS TIME I WANT IT TO LAST FOR-EVER.
BUT PLEASE... LISTEN TO MY STORY. LISTEN AND UNDERSTAND.
IT BEGAN SO MANY YEARS AGO. I WAS THREE YEARS OLD IN 1875, AND MUCH OF WHAT HAPPENED THAT NIGHT IS NO MORE THAN A SHADOW IN MY MIND.
BOOM!
SPLASH
"BUT, IF YOU HAVE PATIENCE, I WILL TRY TO KEEP MY TALE CLEAR.
CAP'N CUTLASS, SIR! THE FRENCH SHIP HAS STOPPED DEAD AHEAD FOR OUR BOARDING, SIR.
I KIN SEE THAT, YA SEA-SCUM. YA TAKE ME FER BLIND?
I WANT YE ALL TO TAKE THEIR BLOODY CARGO! THAT SHIP IS GOOD FER LOOTIN', AN I MEAN TA SKIN IT NAKED AS A FLOUNDER.
MOVE IT NOW, MATES--OUR BOUNTY IS RICH AND AWAITS US WITH OPEN ARMS.
AN' IF THE FRENCH DON'T RELINQUISH THEIR GOODS, CAP'N-- WE SLIT THEIR SLIMY THROATS?
I HOPE THEY RESIST US, CAP'N. WE AIN'T HAD MUCH ACTION OF LATE.
BARRIS...
SMACK
YE RAISE YER BLADE EVEN ONCE WITHOUT ME ORDERS, AND IT'LL BE YOUR GIZZARD THEY FIND FLOATIN' WITH THE SEAWEED.
THERE'S TOO MUCH AT STAKE THIS HERE VOYAGE FOR NEEDLESS VIOLENCE, BARRIS.
AYE! ME DAUGHTER, MARIANNE, I WISH TO BE TRANSPORTIN' HOME SAFE.

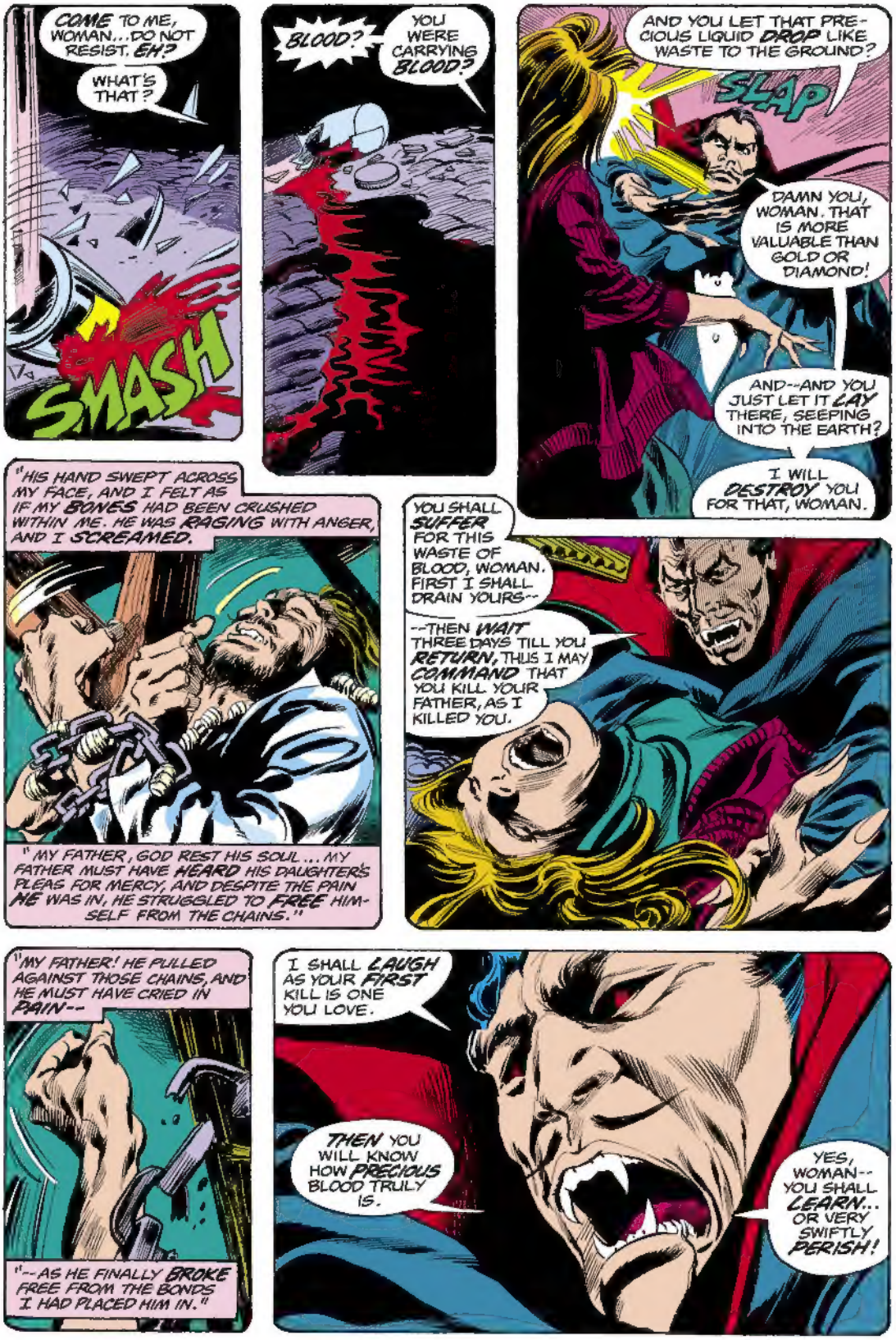
DAUGHTER INDEED! THAT BRAT IS BAD LUCK, I TELL YA. AN OMEN WARNIN' US THAT DEATH IS COMIN'...
...ON WING LIKE A BLAMED ALBA-TROSS!
SLAP
I HEARD THAT REMARK, BARRIS. THE GIRL'S ME DAUGHTER, AND THE ONLY OMEN ABOARD THIS SHIP--
--IS ME WARNIN' THAT YE HAD BETTER NOT OPEN YER BLOODY MOUTH AGAIN!
UNDERSTAND THAT, MATE--?
NOW-- TO ACTION!! TO ACTION!!
"THERE WAS SO MUCH NOISE AND CONFUSION. BODIES LEAPED UPON ROPES AND THE MEN PULLED THEMSELVES FROM OUR SHIP TO THE OTHER. THE MEN SANG SONGS OF BEER BOTTLES AND DEAD MEN'S TREASURES, OF RUM AND OF WOMEN, AS THEY SOARED ABOVE THE CHOPPY WATERS.
"THEN THE SINGING STOPPED, AND THE SCREAMING BEGAN.
"I SAW NONE OF WHAT HAPPENED NEXT, BUT I CAN IMAGINE THE HORRIBLE PAIN... THE TERRIFYING SLAUGHTER.
PAM
"I CROUCHED IN MY CORNER, FRIGHTENED, YET FASCINATED BY THE CRIES I HEARD, AND IN MY CHILD'S MIND, I CONJURED IMAGES OF HORROR GREATER THAN ANY THAT COULD HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN ENACTED."

SPEAK NOW, MAN! YER TREASURE! WHERE IS IT?
SPEAK, OR MORE INNOCENT PASSENGERS WILL FEEL STEEL 'TWEEN THEIR SHOULDERS.
NO THREATS, SIR. YOU WISH OUR MONEY--TAKE IT! BUT PLEASE, LEAVE OUR PEOPLE ALONE.
WHAT YOU SEEK IS BELOW.. IN BAGGAGE.
AH, WE'LL SEE IF YE BE TELLIN' THE TRUTH OR NOT, MATE. AND--MARY, HOLD YE' TREMBLIN' HEART STILL IF YE BE LYIN'!
EH--? A RICH MAN'S COFFIN?!
TAKIN' IT FROM PARIS TO ENGLAND, NO DOUBT, AND FILLED WITH THE MAN'S JEWELS TO BE BURIED WITH HIM, I SUPPOSE.
AH, I'VE NEVER BEEN MUCH ON SUPER-STITION, AND DEAD MEN'S CURSES ARE A LOT OF BILGE. SO--
--THIS HERE NOBLEMAN WILL BE TRAVELIN' TO THE GRAVE LIKE A POOR MAN, AND IT WILL BE SERVIN' HIM RIGHT TO BE HUMBLE FOR A CHANGE.
SQUEEEEE
WHEH? THIS COFFIN'S NOT SEALED?!?
OF COURSE IT ISN'T SEALED, HUMAN. NOT WHEN IT SERVES ONLY AS A RESTING PLACE FOR DRACULA.
WHAT? THE CORPSE IS ALIVE?! HE SPEAKS LIKE A LIVING MAN!
NO, FOOL. I SPEAK LIKE ONE WHO HAS DIED AND STILL DEFIES THE GRAVE.
I SPEAK AS ONE WHO SEEKS TO KNOW WHO DARES DISTURB MY SLEEP?
SPEAK, DOLT! DRACULA DEMANDS ANSWERS TO HIS QUESTIONS! AND HE DEMANDS THEM NOW!!


AYE, YE'LL HAVE ANSWERS, MATE-- CARVED UPON YER BLOODY HIDE WITH THE POINT OF ME SWORD.
FOOL! YOU HUMANS NEVER LEARN, DO YOU?
WE LEARN, FIEND. WE LEARN HOW NOT TO BE PUSHED AROUND BY SOME BLEEDIN' CUTTHROAT.
WE TAKE WHAT WE WANT. WE FIGHT FOR WHAT WE TAKE, AND WE KILL WHEN WE MEET RESISTANCE.
YOU WISH TO DUEL WITH ME, THEN--? AH...THAT SHOULD PROVE TO BE A WELCOME DIVERSION TO THIS TEDIOUS VOYAGE.
"VOICES LAPPING OVER THE TOSSING OF THE WAVES FILTERED THEIR WAY TO ME. THEN, I SAW THEM, AS THEY MOVED TO THE DECK TO BEGIN THEIR DUEL. I GASPED AS I REALIZED WHAT I WAS WITNESS TO.
I WAS THE GREATEST MASTER IN THE TRANSYLVANIAN ARMY. I LEARNED TO THRUST WITH GRACE BEFORE I COULD WALK.
IT WILL PROVE INTERESTING TO SEE HOW LONG A SIMPLE FISHMONGER CAN SURVIVE AGAINST MY CUNNING AND STEALTH.
WISSHH
FISHMONGER, SCUM? FOR THAT I WILL KILL YOU FAST!
NOT QUITE SO SIMPLE A TASK, FOOL. OBSERVE!
AGGGHHH! MY NECK!!
"DRACULA STARED AT MY FATHER'S WOUNDS...STARED AS IF HUNGERING FOR THE CRIMSON LIQUID WHICH SPURT MADLY BEFORE HIM.
"THEN, WITHOUT WARNING, DRACULA DROPPED HIS SWORD, AND, IN A MOMENT OF UNCONTROLLABLE BLOOD-LUST--
"--ATTACKED

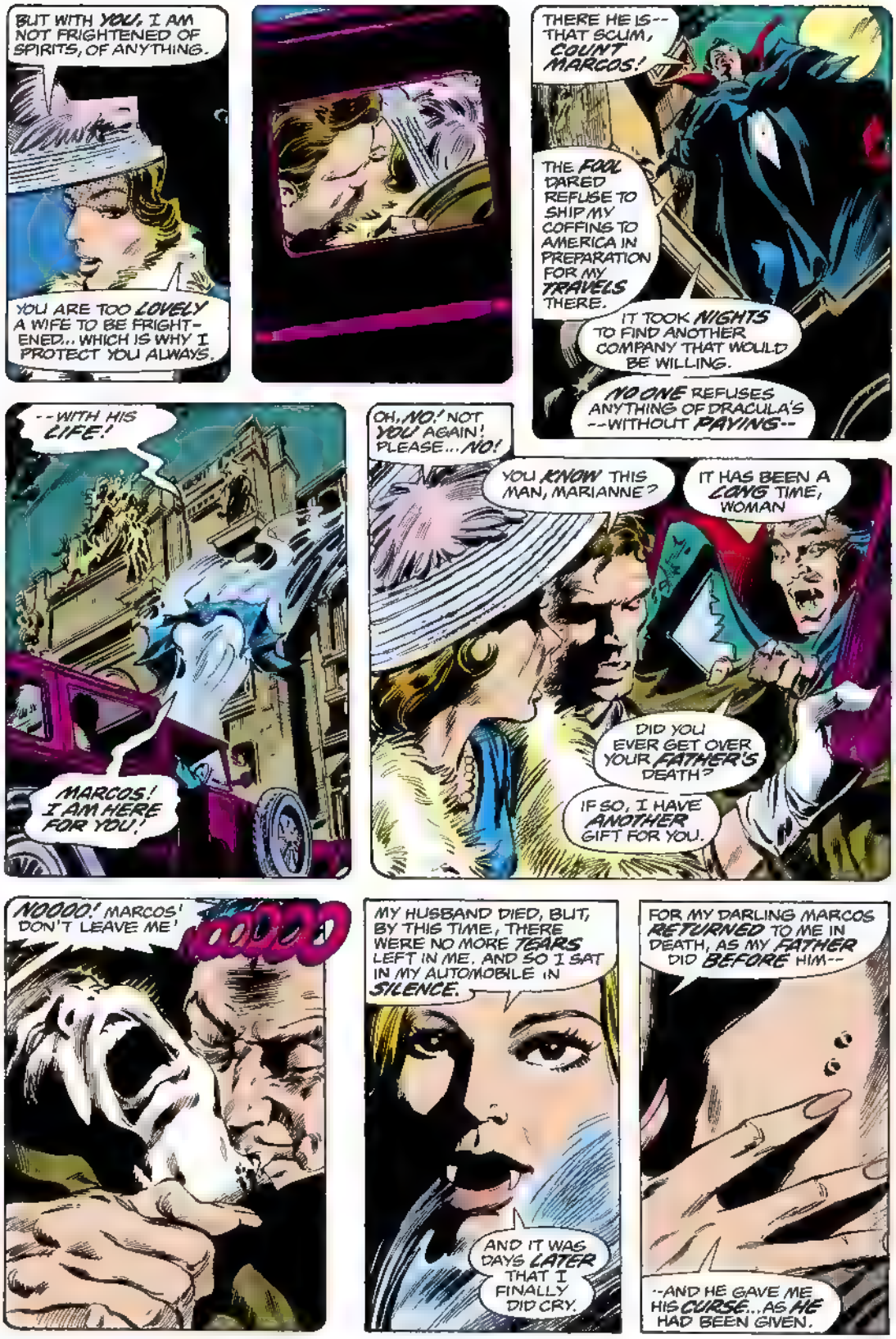

"IT TOOK MANY WEEKS TO WASH AWAY THE VISION OF THAT HORROR FROM MY TERRIFIED EYES...
...THOUGH EVEN NOW, AT TIMES WHEN I SLEEP, I FIND MYSELF SOBBING UNCONTROLLABLY, UNTIL I AWAKE, WITH COLD SWEAT HUGGING MY BROW.
THAT WAS NOT THE ONLY TIME WE MET. AGAIN, IN MADRID, 1903 IT WAS, WHEN, AS A GROWN WOMAN, THE MARK OF DRACULA WAS LEFT SCRATCHED IN BLOOD ACROSS MY MIND.
MADRID WAS A SANCTUARY FOR ME. MY GREAT UNCLE HAD DIED AND WILLED ME HIS CRUMBLING HACIENDA SET DEEP UPON A LONELY, DESOLATE HILL. THE STONE-WORK WAS CRACKED, THE WALLS RE-PLASTERED, BUT IT WAS AWAY FROM ALL PEOPLE, AND THAT WAS HOW I WISHED TO REMAIN...
"...AS LONG AS MY FATHER WAS STILL WITH ME.
"AND SO, CURTAINS CLOSED DAYTIME AND NIGHT, AND THE WORLD AWAY FROM MY SELF-CREATED ISLAND, I LIVED WITH HIM."
BLOOD! I NEED BLOOD, DAUGHTER. I CAN FEEL THE CRAVING BUILDING WITHIN ME.
FREE ME FROM THESE CHAINS OF GARLIC, DAUGHTER. FREE YER FATHER, I SAY.
SO YOU CAN KILL AGAIN, FATHER? NO! I WON'T ALLOW IT... NOT ANYMORE.
IT'S TAKEN ME YEARS TO FIND YOU... YEARS IN WHICH I FOLLOWED YOUR TRAIL OF BLOODLESS MURDERS AND BROKEN FAMILIES.
I-I'LL GET YOU YOUR BLOOD, FATHER, BUT I WON'T LET YOU KILL FOR IT.
I COULDN'T LIVE WITH MYSELF IF I DID.
PLEASE DON'T THINK ME CRUEL, FATHER... BUT LIFE IS TOO SACRED TO BE SO CASUALLY ENDED.

MOTHER MARY, GIVE ME THE STRENGTH I NEED...
...TO TAKE WHAT MY FATHER MUST HAVE TO SURVIVE.
OH, WHAT HAVE I BECOME, MOTHER MARY--?
BUT I LOVE MY FATHER... NO MATTER WHAT HE HAS BECOME.
--THEN, MY FATE IS SEALED... FOREVER.
AND IF I MUST STEAL SO HE WILL NEVER KILL--
BUT, TO LIVE A NORMAL LIFE. OH, WHAT I WOULD DO FOR THAT. TO LOVE, TO--
NO! I MUSTN'T THINK ABOUT THAT. I HAVE MY DUTY TO MY FATHER...
...TO FIND BLOOD TO RELIEVE HIS SUFFERING.
AND THIS HOSPITAL...
...IS WHERE I WILL FIND IT.
I'M SORRY, DOCTOR, BUT I NEED THE BLOOD YOU STORE HERE.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME, MOTHER MARY--
BLOOD
--BUT I DO ONLY WHAT I MUST...
...TO PREVENT THE CURSE OF UNNATURAL DEATH FROM TAKING THIS CITY IN ITS HANDS.
"I STUCK TO THE SHADOWS AS I RAN HOME. BUT LITTLE DID I KNOW THERE WERE OTHER THINGS HIDING IN THE DARKNESS ALONG WITH ME.
FATHER! I AM HOME, I'LL BE WITH YOU IN A MOMENT.
A MOMENT MORE AND YOU WILL BE DEAD--
--AND YOUR FATHER WILL BE CHILDLESS.
WHAT? OH NO! IT'S YOU! NOT AGAIN!!
AND THE NIGHTMARE RETURNED AFTER ALL THESE YEARS."

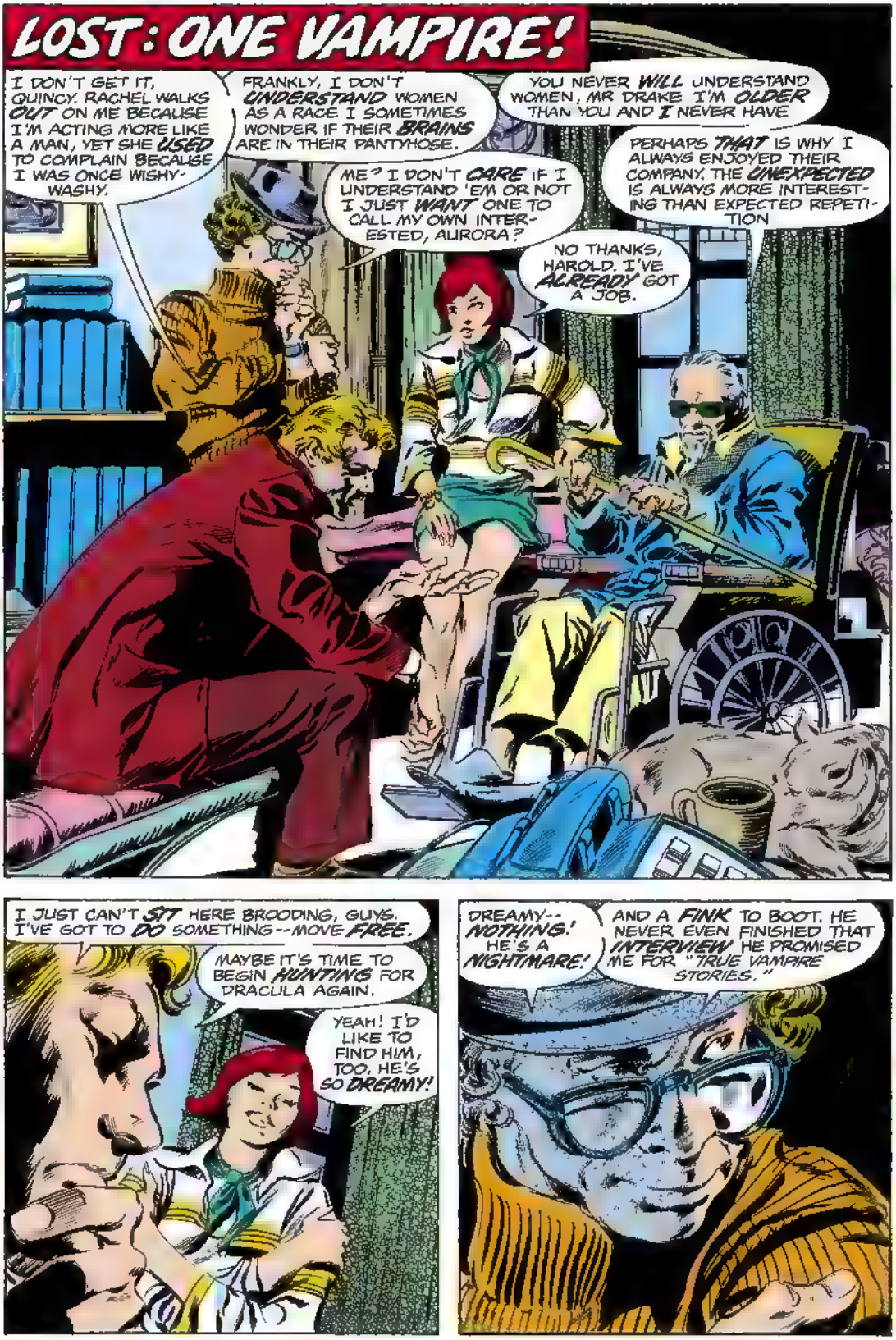

COME TO ME, WOMAN...DO NOT RESIST. EH?
WHAT'S THAT?
SMASH
BLOOD?
YOU WERE CARRYING BLOOD?
AND YOU LET THAT PRECIOUS LIQUID DROP LIKE WASTE TO THE GROUND?
SLAP
DAMN YOU, WOMAN. THAT IS MORE VALUABLE THAN GOLD OR DIAMOND!
AND--AND YOU JUST LET IT LAY THERE, SEEPING INTO THE EARTH?
I WILL DESTROY YOU FOR THAT, WOMAN.
"HIS HAND SWEPT ACROSS MY FACE, AND I FELT AS IF MY BONES HAD BEEN CRUSHED WITHIN ME. HE WAS RAGING WITH ANGER, AND I SCREAMED.
" MY FATHER, GOD REST HIS SOUL ... MY FATHER MUST HAVE HEARD HIS DAUGHTER'S PLEAS FOR MERCY, AND DESPITE THE PAIN HE WAS IN, HE STRUGGLED TO FREE HIMSELF FROM THE CHAINS."
YOU SHALL SUFFER FOR THIS WASTE OF BLOOD, WOMAN. FIRST I SHALL DRAIN YOURS--
--THEN WAIT THREE DAYS TILL YOU RETURN, THUS I MAY COMMAND THAT YOU KILL YOUR FATHER, AS I KILLED YOU.
"MY FATHER! HE PULLED AGAINST THOSE CHAINS, AND HE MUST HAVE CRIED IN PAIN--
"--AS HE FINALLY BROKE FREE FROM THE BONDS I HAD PLACED HIM IN."
I SHALL LAUGH AS YOUR FIRST KILL IS ONE YOU LOVE.
THEN YOU WILL KNOW HOW PRECIOUS BLOOD TRULY IS.
YES, WOMAN-- YOU SHALL LEARN... OR VERY SWIFTLY PERISH!

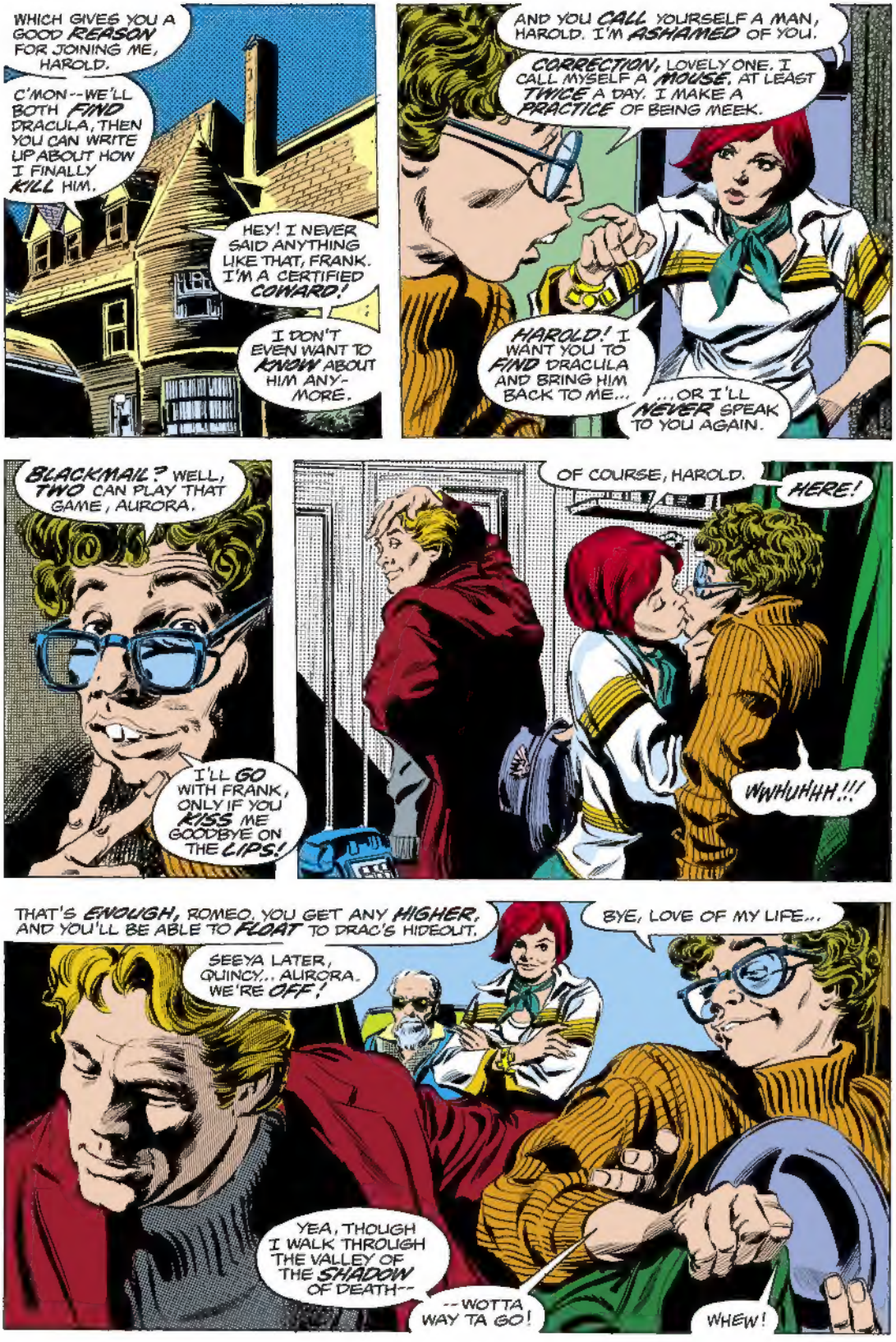
NO, YE SCUM. YOU'LL NOT BE PLACIN' YER BLOODY FANGS ON ME DAUGHTER.
SHE BE TOO GOOD FER YE... TOO PURE TO BE TAINTED BY YER CURSED PLAGUE.
SHE BE TOO GOOD TO TAKE THE CURSE YE HAVE LEFT UPON HER OLD DAD.
WHAT?
FOOL!
YOU TRY SAVING YOUR DAUGHTER FROM DRACULA, LORD OF VAMPIRES?
AWAY WITH YOU, MADMAN-- BEFORE I STRIP YOU OF YOUR BLOOD, TOO.
AWAY, AND RETURN NOT... FOR DRACULA HAS MATTERS OF GREATER IMPORT TO WORRY ABOUT--
CRASH
--THAN THE FATE OF AN OLD MAN AND HIS WENCH OF A DAUGHTER.
OLD MAN, DRACULA? NAY, THIS HERE BAG O' BONES AIN'T NO OLD MAN.
HE BE A SEA-DOG YOU TURNED INTA A BLOODY NIGHTCREATURE.
AND I BE WANTIN' TA PAY YE BACK FER YEARS NOW.
DIE, YA CURSED ROTTER! DIE!
AAAAGGGHH
"TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS HAD PASSED SINCE THESE TWO HAD PREVIOUSLY FOUGHT, AND AGAIN I STARED AT THEM LOCKED IN COMBAT, HELPLESS AS THE FRIGHTENED CHILD I WAS THEN.
"I WATCHED HORRIFIED, AND TURNED MY EYES AWAY AS THE BATTLE WAS QUICKLY DONE."

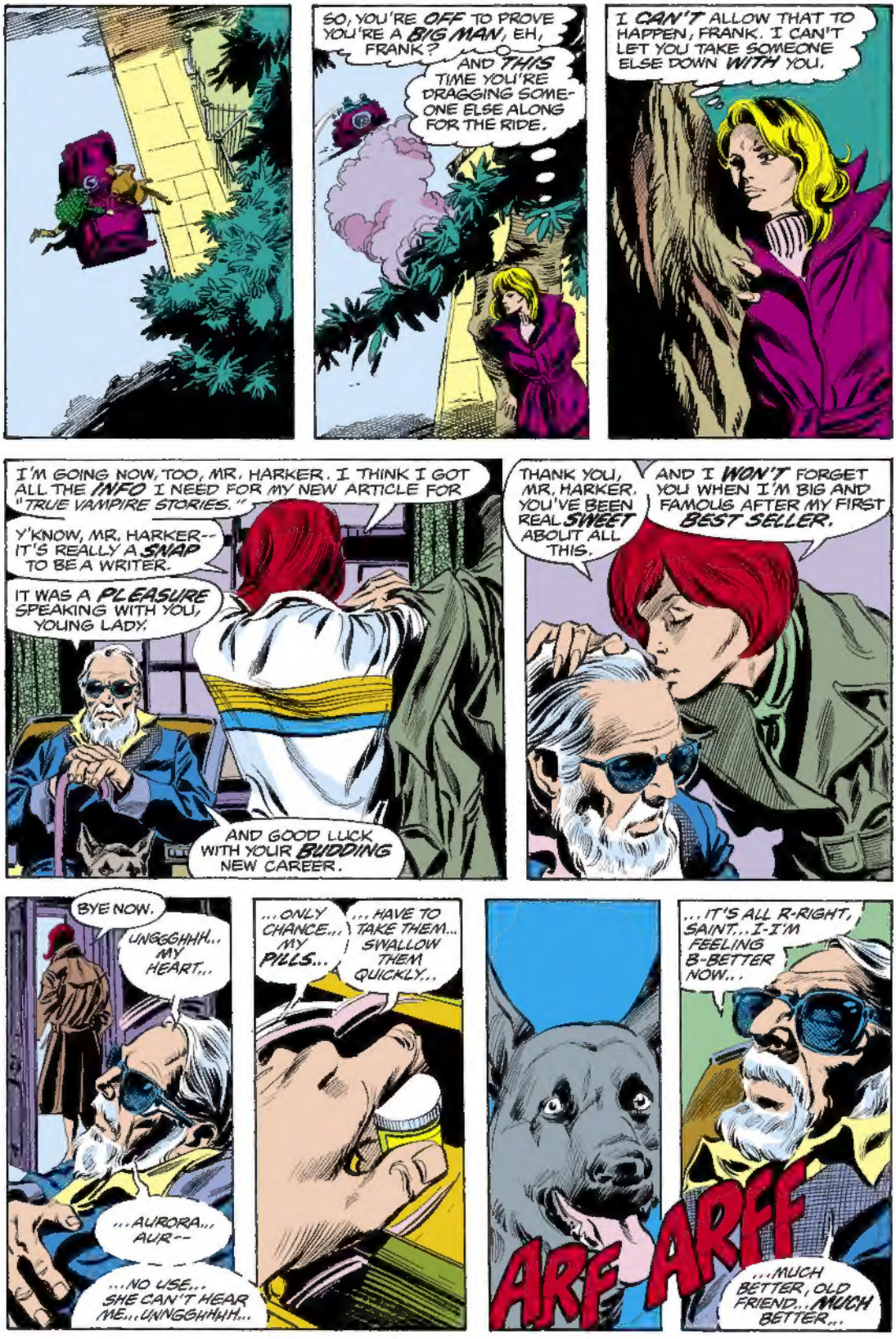
THERE IS YOUR FATHER. ENJOY WHAT REMAINS OF HIM . IF YOU CAN
FOR, HIS FINAL DEATH HAS QUENCHED MY DESIRE FOR KILLING, AND SO YOU ARE SPARED--
--UNTIL DRACULA HUNGERS AGAIN!
TWICE WE MET, AND TWICE THE NIGHTMARES CAME. BUT, WE MET AGAIN-- A THIRD TIME, YEARS LATER.
IN ROME, BEFORE THE DEPRESSION, 1926 IT WAS, AND I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT NIGHT
STOP, DRIVER, PULL ALONGSIDE THE TREVI FOUNTAIN, EH
COUNT MARCOS DE LA TRIANA WAS THE MAN WHO TOOK ME FROM THE SHELTER OF MY HOME, REMOVED ME FROM THE SHADOWS I HAD CRAWLED INTO, THEN MARRIED ME, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE, I WAS A HAPPY WOMAN.
THERE IS LEGEND, MY DARLING, THAT A COIN DROPPED IN THIS FOUNTAIN, WILL GIVE YOU YOUR HEART'S DESIRE.
I HAVE ALL MY WISHES, MARCOS-- BY BEING YOUR WIFE
THEN I WISH FOR YOU, DARLING-- THAT WE HAVE A LONG LIFE TOGETHER. THAT WE NEVER PART
AND THAT ONLY HAPPINESS BE SHOWN ON YOUR FACE NOW, AND THAT TEARS MUST STAIN IT NO MORE.
I--I WAS FRIGHTENED, MARCOS... AFRAID OF SO MANY THINGS.

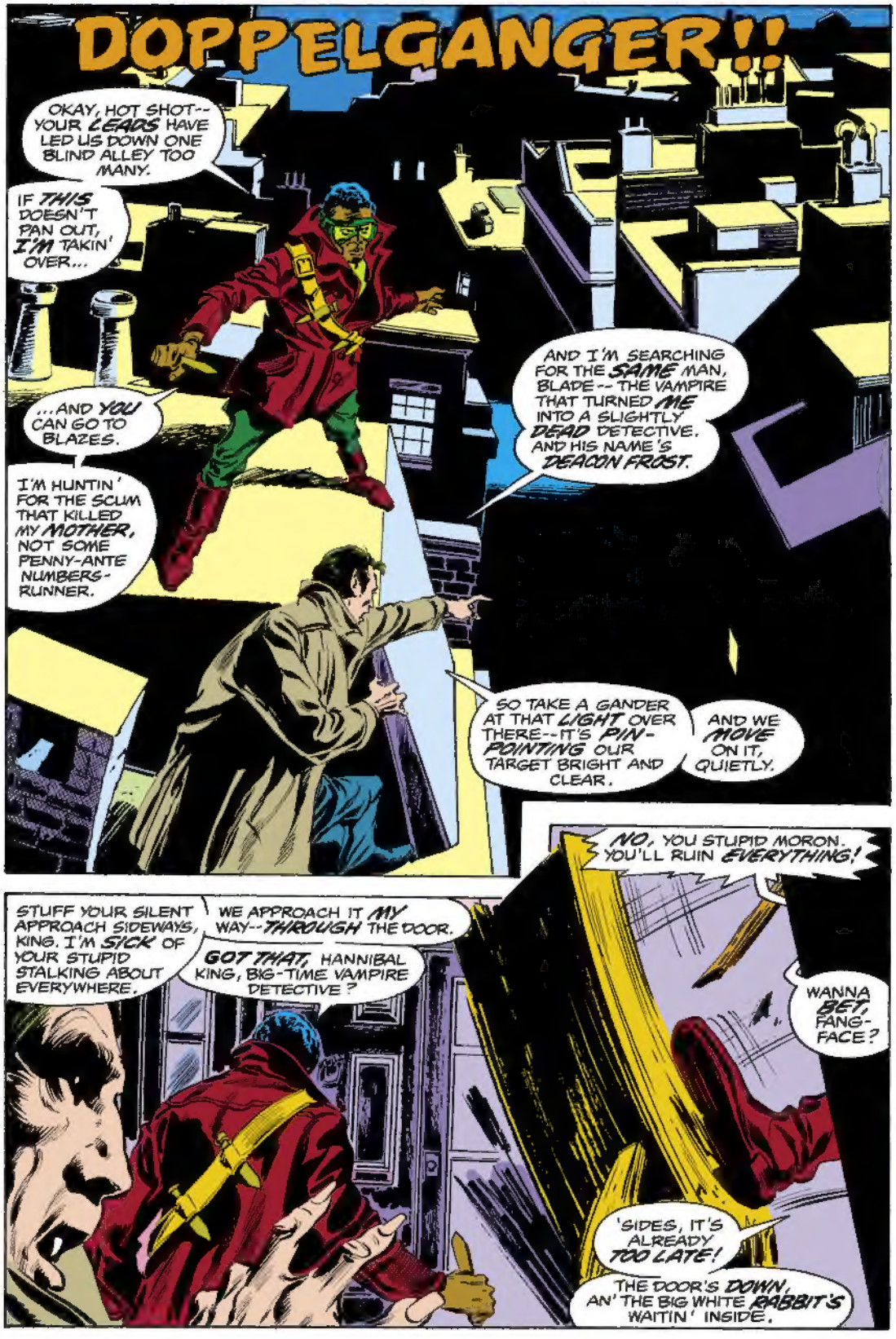

BUT WITH YOU, I AM NOT FRIGHTENED OF SPIRITS, OF ANYTHING.
YOU ARE TOO LOVELY A WIFE TO BE FRIGHTENED... WHICH IS WHY I PROTECT YOU ALWAYS.
THERE HE IS-- THAT SCUM, COUNT MARCOS!
THE FOOL DARED REFUSE TO SHIP MY COFFINS TO AMERICA IN PREPARATION FOR MY TRAVELS THERE.
IT TOOK NIGHTS TO FIND ANOTHER COMPANY THAT WOULD BE WILLING.
NO ONE REFUSES ANYTHING OF DRACULA'S --WITHOUT PAYING--
--WITH HIS LIFE!
MARCOS! I AM HERE FOR YOU!
OH, NO! NOT YOU AGAIN! PLEASE... NO!
YOU KNOW THIS MAN, MARIANNE?
IT HAS BEEN A LONG TIME, WOMAN
DID YOU EVER GET OVER YOUR FATHER'S DEATH?
IF SO, I HAVE ANOTHER GIFT FOR YOU.
NOOOO! MARCOS! DON'T LEAVE ME!
MY HUSBAND DIED, BUT, BY THIS TIME, THERE WERE NO MORE TEARS LEFT IN ME. AND SO I SAT IN MY AUTOMOBILE IN SILENCE.
AND IT WAS DAYS LATER THAT I FINALLY DID CRY.
FOR MY DARLING MARCOS RETURNED TO ME IN DEATH, AS MY FATHER DID BEFORE HIM--
--AND HE GAVE ME HIS CURSE... AS HE HAD BEEN GIVEN.

WHICH IS WHY I AM HERE NOW.
YOU SEE, I RETURNED TO MARCOS THREE DAYS AFTER MY DEATH, AND WE WERE TOGETHER AGAIN...
NEVER LEAVING EACH OTHERS' SIDE FOR FIFTY YEARS.
UNTIL YESTERDAY--
--WHEN THE MAN NAMED BLADE FOUND US ROBBING A HOSPITAL FOR BLOOD, AND, AS I TURNED TO MIST TO ESCAPE HIM, HE SPUN...
. AND KILLED MY HUSBAND, WHILE I WATCHED, ONE FURTHER TIME.
I WAS ALONE AGAIN.
AND THIS TIME I KNEW I COULD NOT COPE WITH THAT.
WHICH IS WHY I'VE COME HERE--TO GIVE YOU THIS STAKE, TO ASK YOU, THE ONE WHO BEGAN THIS CYCLE OF HORROR FOR ME--
--TO END IT NOW AND FOREVER... AND TO LET ME BE WITH MY HUSBAND, IN ETERNITY.
ONCE, MANY YEARS AGO, IT SEEMS NOW, I WOULD NOT HAVE UNDERSTOOD YOUR REQUEST.
BUT NOW, WITH MY WIFE DOMINI AT MY SIDE, I CAN UNDERSTAND SUCH THINGS AS PEACE AND REST AND LOVE.
YES, I WILL KILL YOU, WOMAN. AND MAY YOUR ASHES REST IN PEACE... FOREVER!


LOST: ONE VAMPIRE!
I DON'T GET IT, QUINCY. RACHEL WALKS OUT ON ME BECAUSE I'M ACTING MORE LIKE A MAN, YET SHE USED TO COMPLAIN BECAUSE I WAS ONCE WISHY-WASHY.
FRANKLY, I DON'T UNDERSTAND WOMEN AS A RACE. I SOMETIMES WONDER IF THEIR BRAINS ARE IN THEIR PANTYHOSE.
YOU NEVER WILL UNDERSTAND WOMEN, MR DRAKE. I'M OLDER THAN YOU AND I NEVER HAVE.
PERHAPS THAT IS WHY I ALWAYS ENJOYED THEIR COMPANY. THE UNEXPECTED IS ALWAYS MORE INTERESTING THAN EXPECTED REPETITION
ME? I DON'T CARE IF I UNDERSTAND 'EM OR NOT I JUST WANT ONE TO CALL MY OWN INTERESTED, AURORA?
NO THANKS, HAROLD. I'VE ALREADY GOT A JOB.
I JUST CAN'T SIT HERE BROODING, GUYS. I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING--MOVE FREE.
MAYBE IT'S TIME TO BEGIN HUNTING FOR DRACULA AGAIN.
YEAH! I'D LIKE TO FIND HIM, TOO. HE'S SO DREAMY!
DREAMY--NOTHING! HE'S A NIGHTMARE!
AND A FINK TO BOOT. HE NEVER EVEN FINISHED THAT INTERVIEW HE PROMISED ME FOR "TRUE VAMPIRE STORIES."


WHICH GIVES YOU A GOOD REASON FOR JOINING ME, HAROLD.
C'MON--WE'LL BOTH FIND DRACULA, THEN YOU CAN WRITE UP ABOUT HOW I FINALLY KILL HIM.
HEY! I NEVER SAID ANYTHING LIKE THAT, FRANK. I'M A CERTIFIED COWARD!
I DON'T EVEN WANT TO KNOW ABOUT HIM ANY-MORE.
AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A MAN, HAROLD. I'M ASHAMED OF YOU.
CORRECTION, LOVELY ONE. I CALL MYSELF A MOUSE, AT LEAST TWICE A DAY. I MAKE A PRACTICE OF BEING MEEK.
HAROLD! I WANT YOU TO FIND DRACULA AND BRING HIM BACK TO ME...
...OR I'LL NEVER SPEAK TO YOU AGAIN.
BLACKMAIL? WELL, TWO CAN PLAY THAT GAME, AURORA.
I'LL GO WITH FRANK, ONLY IF YOU KISS ME GOODBYE ON THE LIPS!
OF COURSE, HAROLD.
HERE!
WWHUHHH!!!
THAT'S ENOUGH, ROMEO. YOU GET ANY HIGHER, AND YOU'LL BE ABLE TO FLOAT TO DRAC'S HIDEOUT.
SEEYA LATER, QUINCY... AURORA. WE'RE OFF!
BYE, LOVE OF MY LIFE...
YEA, THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH--
--WOTTA WAY TA GO!
WHEW!


SO, YOU'RE OFF TO PROVE YOU'RE A BIG MAN, EH, FRANK?
AND THIS TIME YOU'RE DRAGGING SOMEONE ELSE ALONG FOR THE RIDE.
I CAN'T ALLOW THAT TO HAPPEN, FRANK. I CAN'T LET YOU TAKE SOMEONE ELSE DOWN WITH YOU.
I'M GOING NOW, TOO, MR. HARKER. I THINK I GOT ALL THE INFO I NEED FOR MY NEW ARTICLE FOR "TRUE VAMPIRE STORIES."
Y'KNOW, MR. HARKER--IT'S REALLY A SNAP TO BE A WRITER.
IT WAS A PLEASURE SPEAKING WITH YOU, YOUNG LADY.
AND GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR BUDDING NEW CAREER.
THANK YOU, MR. HARKER. YOU'VE BEEN REAL SWEET ABOUT ALL THIS.
AND I WON'T FORGET YOU WHEN I'M BIG AND FAMOUS AFTER MY FIRST BEST SELLER.
BYE NOW.
UNGGGHHH... MY HEART...
...AURORA... AUR--
...NO USE... SHE CAN'T HEAR ME...UNNGGHHHH...
...ONLY CHANCE... MY PILLS...
...HAVE TO TAKE THEM... SWALLOW THEM QUICKLY...
ARF
ARFF
...IT'S ALL R-RIGHT, SAINT...I-I'M FEELING B-BETTER NOW...
...MUCH BETTER, OLD FRIEND...MUCH BETTER...


DOPPELGANGER!!
OKAY, HOT SHOT-- YOUR LEADS HAVE LED US DOWN ONE BLIND ALLEY TOO MANY.
IF THIS DOESN'T PAN OUT, I'M TAKIN' OVER...
...AND YOU CAN GO TO BLAZES.
I'M HUNTIN' FOR THE SCUM THAT KILLED MY MOTHER, NOT SOME PENNY-ANTE NUMBERS-RUNNER.
AND I'M SEARCHING FOR THE SAME MAN, BLADE -- THE VAMPIRE THAT TURNED ME INTO A SLIGHTLY DEAD DETECTIVE. AND HIS NAME'S DEACON FROST.
SO TAKE A GANDER AT THAT LIGHT OVER THERE--IT'S PIN-POINTING OUR TARGET BRIGHT AND CLEAR.
AND WE MOVE ON IT, QUIETLY.
NO, YOU STUPID MORON. YOU'LL RUIN EVERYTHING!
WANNA BET, FANG-FACE?
'SIDES, IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE!
THE DOOR'S DOWN, AN' THE BIG WHITE RABBIT'S WAITIN' INSIDE.
STUFF YOUR SILENT APPROACH SIDEWAYS, KING. I'M SICK OF YOUR STUPID STALKING ABOUT EVERYWHERE.
WE APPROACH IT MY WAY--THROUGH THE DOOR.
GOT THAT, HANNIBAL KING, BIG-TIME VAMPIRE DETECTIVE?

"YEAH, THERE WAS A BIG RABBIT INSIDE, ONLY ALL THIS PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR GOT TO HEAR WAS BLADE SPUTTERING EXPLETIVES EVEN A DOCKWORKER WOULD'VE DELETED. SO I TOOK A LOOKSEE INSIDE AND I SAW THE RABBIT WAITIN' FOR US WASN'T WHITE AT ALL -- BUT BIG, BLACK, AND -- HEAVEN HELP ME -- HE WAS BLADE'S EXACT DOUBLE -- ONLY WITH FANGS!"
MOTHER OF MERCY-- IT CAN'T BE!
DEACON FROST'S GOON TOLD US YOU EXISTED. BUT I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT-- NOT TILL NOW!
THEN YOU HAD BETTER BELIEVE WHAT YOU SEE, BLADE.
FOR, I DO EXIST--
--AND I SWEAR WHEN THIS FIGHT IS OVER...
...I WILL STILL BE HERE, AND YOU WILL BE DEAD!

A GOTHIC MASTERWORK LIKE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE! DRACULA IS CHALLENGED BY:
FRANKENSTEIN! ROBIN HOOD! ZORRO!
AND MORE SHOCK-STARS THAN CAN BE IMAGINED!